

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for identifying one of a plurality of devices in a model vehicle system, comprising:

positioning a remote control device near a first one of said devices; and
transmitting between said first device and said remote, ~~such that only wherein~~
said remote is only capable of receiving an ID for said first device when said remote is placed within a narrow transmission is received spatial field emanating from said first device, so that said first model vehicle is not interfered with by other devices, and only said first device responds to ~~said transmissions~~ from said remote after said remote receives said ID; and
~~transmitting data between said first device and said remote control device.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said narrow ~~transmission~~ spatial field is achieved by recessing a detector.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said narrow ~~transmission~~ spatial field is achieved by recessing a transmitter.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said ~~transmission~~ ID is an infrared ~~transmission~~ signal.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein said first device transmits ~~an identification code~~ the ID to said remote control device.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 5 wherein said first device repeatedly transmits.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The method of claim 5 wherein said first device transmits said ~~identification code~~ ID in response to a transmitted request from said remote control.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said remote control device transmits a signal which is reflected off a reflective code on said device.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said device is an accessory.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein said device is a model vehicle.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 10 further comprising:
determining ~~[[an]]~~ the ID of said model vehicle ~~from said limited field transmission~~ by positioning said remote within said narrow spatial field emanating from said model vehicle; and

providing a command to said model vehicle from said remote, using said ID, along a communication channel separate from said limited field transmission the communication channel used to determine the ID.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11 further comprising:
associating, in said remote control, at least one control input with a control function for said vehicle with said ID.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method for identifying one of a plurality of model trains, comprising:

periodically transmitting from a first model train an ID for said first model train in a limited field infrared transmission;

positioning a remote control device near said first model train so that only a transmission from said first model train is received by an infrared receiver in said remote control device;

associating, in said remote control, at least one control input with a control function for said vehicle with said ID; and

providing a command to said model train from said remote control device, using said ID, along a communication channel separate from said limited field transmission.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A model vehicle comprising:
a processor configured to receive commands from a remote control unit via commands received from a communication channel;
a transmitter mounted in said vehicle for directing a transmission that can be received by said remote control unit independent of said communication channel; and
means for limiting said transmission so that only a narrow transmission is received from a single vehicle is received by said remote control unit when positioned in a field of said transmission.

Claim 15 (original): The model vehicle of claim 14 wherein said processor is programmed to periodically cause an ID associated with said model vehicle to be transmitted by said transmitter.

Claim 16 (original): The model vehicle of claim 14 wherein said transmitter comprises an IR LED, and where said means for limiting the transmission of said transmission comprises a barrier around said LED formed by a recess in said model vehicle.

Claim 17 (original): The model vehicle of claim 14 wherein said transmitter is mounted in a windshield of said vehicle.

Claim 18 (original): The model vehicle of claim 14 wherein said vehicle is a train, and said communication channel is over the train tracks.

Claim 19 (original): A remote control unit for controlling a plurality of model vehicles, comprising:

a processor configured to generate a plurality of commands to designated vehicles identified by IDs, in accordance with inputs provided by a user, over a first communication channel;

a receiver mounted in said remote control device, for receiving a transmission from a first model vehicle, separate from said communication channel, with an ID of said first model vehicle; and

said processor being configured to send a command to said first model vehicle, over said first communication channel, using said ID received by said transmission, in response to a user input.

Claim 20 (original): The remote control unit of claim 19 wherein:

said model vehicle is a model train;

said transmission is an IR transmission; and

said first communication channel includes providing commands to said model train over the train tracks.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A system for controlling model vehicles, comprising:

a first model vehicle including a processor configured to receive commands via ~~commands~~ a first communication channel, a transmitter mounted in said first model vehicle for directing a transmission that can be received independent of said first communication channel, and means for limiting said transmission so that only a narrow transmission ~~is received~~ from a single vehicle is received by a receiver positioned in said field of said transmission; and

a remote control unit for controlling said model vehicles, including a processor configured to generate a plurality of commands to designated vehicles identified by IDs, in accordance with inputs provided by a user, over said first communication channel;

a receiver mounted in said remote control device, for receiving a transmission from said first model vehicle, separate from said communication channel, with an ID of said first model vehicle; and

said processor being configured to send a command to said first model vehicle,
over said first communication channel, using said ID received by said transmission, in response
to a user input.